mines which began washing up on Gulf

JFK Death Probe Figure Fails to Win New Trial

T-P 7/18/67

Court Refuses to Void Cancler's Case

John "The Baptist" Cancler, an inmate of Parish Prison who became involved in District Attorney Jim Garrison's Kennedy death probe, failed Monday in an attempt to get a new trial on a burglary conviction in Criminal District Court.

Judge Oliver P. Schulingkamp overruled the motion for a new trial and refused to set aside a multiple offender bill to which Cancler pleaded innocent through his attorney, Milton Brener, in the same court session.

Judge Schulingkamp found Cancler guilty on the multiple offender charge and gave Brener until July 28 to prepare exceptions to the ruling.

Assistant District Attorney Richard V. Burnes charged Cancler as a fourth offender, which carried a penalty of from 20 years to life imprisonment.

Last week Cancler received a six-month sentence, plus an alternative of a $500 fine or a year extra, after he refused to answer a question before the Orleans Parish grand jury.

He was cited for contempt of court by Judge Bernard J. Bagert for refusing to testify concerning televised statements he made in connection with Garrison's probe.

Cancler told a nation-wide television audience last month that he was asked by two of Garrison's assistants to break into the home of accused conspirator Clay L. Shaw and "put something there."

Cancler's conviction for simple burglary came in February, and he later asked for a new trial. Another inmate said he perpetrated the burglary Cancler was convicted of.

The other inmate, Donnell Carroll, said he burglarized the house in question with a friend known to him only as "Wolf."

However, at the May 2 hearing at which Carroll testified, Dr. Morris Kloor, 7107 Maple, testified that Carroll was not the man he saw entering the house.